

are flat and have high electron conductivity due to high crystallinity, the flakes enter the interstices between the negative-electrode active material particles 17 and improve the contact between these particles 17, resulting in improvement in conductivity between the negative-electrode active material particles 17.”

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 4 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 13, 18, 22, and 27 as follows:

1. (amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery comprising:  
a positive electrode comprising a positive-electrode active material;  
a negative electrode comprising a particulate negative-electrode active material, the positive-electrode active material and the negative-electrode active material capable of intercalating/deintercalating lithium; and  
a nonaqueous electrolyte solution;  
wherein the negative electrode further comprises carbon fibers and carbon flakes disposed in the particulate negative electrode active material, wherein the ratio by weight of the carbon fibers to the carbon flakes in the negative electrode is in a range of 0.2 to 100.

13. (amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery comprising an electrode composite and a nonaqueous electrolyte solution, the electrode composite comprising a positive electrode comprising a positive-electrode active material and a negative electrode comprising a particulate negative-electrode active material, the positive electrode and the negative electrode being wound by several turns together with a separator disposed therebetween,  
wherein the negative electrode further comprises carbon fibers and carbon flakes disposed in the particulate negative electrode active material, wherein the ratio by weight of the carbon fibers to the carbon flakes in the negative electrode is in a range of 0.2 to 100.

18. (amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 13, wherein the carbon flakes have an average diameter of 0.5 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average thickness of 0.01 to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .